

# ANGRY MAHATHIR MAKES IT SHORT AND SIMPLE

By R.K. KATHARASON

KUALA LUMPUR, Sat. — Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, apparently irritated by the noise at the launching of the national Youth Day celebrations this morning, cut short his speech abruptly.

The Prime Minister caught everyone by surprise, reading just half the speech and taking only nine minutes of the scheduled half-hour.

His aides said he was apparently annoyed with the "noise and response" from the 10,000 youths representing 27 organisations.

There were also representatives from Asean and Commonwealth youth organisations at the ceremony at the Stadium Negara.

The theme of this year's celebrations is "Disciplined youth in a progressive nation."

The full text of the Prime Minister's speech had 19 paragraphs.

There was a lot of noise as he began delivering the speech.

As he was reading the eighth paragraph, someone popped a plastic bag.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir went right on to the 17th paragraph, congratulating the youth movements in the country for setting up the

National Youth Cooperative. He then said "thank you" and sat down.

He had begun his speech at 9.33. By 9.42, he was finished.

He stayed another 10 minutes to receive donations from the youth bodies to the national cooperative.

He then left to attend an Umno Supreme Council meeting at party headquarters in Jalan Tuanku Abdul Rahman.